

NAMING THE LOCK AND DAM NO. 17 ON THE VERDIGRIS
RIVER, OKLA., AS THE CHOUTEAU LOCK AND DAM

DECEMBER 9, 1970.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed

Mr. FALLON, from the Committee on Public Works,
submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 1499]

The Committee on Public Works, to whom was referred the bill (S. 1499) to name the authorized lock and dam numbered 17 on the Verdigris River in Oklahoma for the Chouteau family, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill is to designate lock and dam 17 on the Verdigris River, Okla., as the Chouteau lock and dam. S. 1499 is identical to H.R. 436 introduced by Representative Ed Edmondson of Oklahoma and on which hearings were held by the committee on December 1, 1970. H.R. 436 has the support of the entire Oklahoma delegation.

GENERAL STATEMENT

Lock and dam 17 is a feature of the Arkansas River and tributaries navigation project. The overall project, authorized by the River and Harbor Act of July 24, 1946 will provide a 9-foot navigation channel from the Mississippi River at the mouth of the White River, to Catoosa, Okla.

Col. Auguste P. Chouteau, in 1823, constructed a shipyard at the falls of the Verdigris River, near the site of lock and dam No. 17, for the construction of large keel boats to transport hides and produce down the Verdigris, Arkansas, and Mississippi Rivers to New Orleans. The bill would honor not only Colonel Chouteau, who was the first to envision the feasibility of navigation over the route now being improved, but also all of the Chouteaus who were involved in the earliest settlement of Oklahoma and navigation of its streams.

COST TO THE UNITED STATES

Enactment of this legislation will not result in any cost to the United States.

COMMITTEE VIEWS

The committee believes it fitting and proper to name this lock and dam in honor of the Chouteau family, in honor of the family's distinguished contribution to the settlement area and the promotion of navigation on the Verdigris and Arkansas Rivers.

AGENCY COMMENTS

A letter submitted by the Department of the Army offering no objection to the enactment of H.R. 436, an identical bill, follows:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Washington, D.C., November 24, 1969.

HON. GEORGE H. FALLON,
Chairman, Committee on Public Works,
House of Representatives.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Reference is made to your request for the views of the Department of the Army with respect to H.R. 436, 91st Congress, a bill to designate lock and dam No. 17 on the Verdigris River, Okla., as the Chouteau lock and dam.

Lock and dam No. 17 is a feature of the Arkansas River and tributaries navigation project, authorized by the River and Harbor Act of July 24, 1946, as amended. The overall project will provide a 9-foot navigation channel from the Mississippi River at the mouth of the White River, to Catoosa, Okla.

Col. Auguste P. Chouteau, in 1823, constructed a shipyard at the falls of the Verdigris River, near the site of lock and dam No. 17, for the construction of large keel boats to transport hides and produce down the Verdigris, Arkansas, and Mississippi Rivers to New Orleans. The bill would honor not only Colonel Chouteau, who was the first to envision the feasibility of navigation over the route now being improved, but also all of the Chouteaus who were involved in the earliest settlement of Oklahoma and navigation of its streams.

The Department of the Army has no objection to the enactment of this bill.

The Bureau of the Budget advises that, from the standpoint of the administration's program, there is no objection to the presentation of of this report for the consideration of the committee.

Sincerely,

STANLEY R. RESOR,
Secretary of the Army.

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